

JANUARY 2021 AWARDS MONTHLY

- 1. Bronze Wreath of Merit: Officer David T. Howard #2365**
Police Shield: Officer Joey D. Husen #2374

The abovementioned officers were nominated for their actions in reference to suspicious activity occurring in the 2100 block of South Broadway on November 20th, 2020 at approximately 8:30 P.M.

Officer David T. Howard #2365 and Officer Joey D. Husen #2374 are assigned to the Broadway Corridor Team, in which their primary duties are to patrol and respond to crime in the areas on Broadway St. North from Pawnee Ave. to 13th St. and Main St. over to Emporia St. This area is colloquially known as the “Broadway Corridor.” On November 20th, 2020 at approximately 8:30 P.M., Officers Howard and Husen observed a driver in a silver vehicle attempting to communicate with a female that was walking down the sidewalk, then swerving out of the lane of traffic. Officers believed these actions were indicative of criminal activity that is common in the Broadway Corridor and after observing the traffic violation, they conducted a traffic stop in the 2100 block of South Broadway.

Upon contacting the driver, officers noticed several occupants that were known to engage in criminal activity in the Broadway Corridor. The driver was identified and it was discovered that they had an active warrants through both the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County. The driver was also known to be armed and dangerous. The driver continued to argue with officers and would refuse to exit the vehicle. Instead, the driver placed the vehicle in reverse in an attempt to flee the traffic stop. Officer Husen attempted to move away from the open door of the vehicle but was unable to move quickly enough and was struck by the door and thrown several feet backwards. Officer Husen struck the ground and rolled several times. Despite being hurt, Officer Husen realized he would be in the path of the vehicle should the driver decide to drive forward, so he got back up and removed himself from danger. At this time, the driver fled the vehicle. Officer Husen attempted to give chase, but had to stop and lie down due to vertigo.

Officer Howard moved away from the vehicle when the vehicle moved backwards. He observed the vehicle strike Officer Husen as well as a private citizen's vehicle. Officer Howard gave chase of the driver and they began to flee. Officer Husen heard a citizen yell that the driver had a gun. The driver ran across Broadway St and then tripped and fell to the ground. Officer Howard heard the sound of a metallic object hitting the ground and as he approached, Officer Howard pointed his handgun at the driver and gave clear orders. The driver responded by picking up an unknown object which Officer Howard could not identify at the time, but believed to be the gun. Officer Howard quickly assessed the actions of the driver and noted that the driver was attempting to discard the gun and not making any movement towards the officer. The driver ran a few more feet and then gave up, laid on the ground and was taken into custody without incident.

Both officers provided excellent radio communication, regarding the suspect and requests for EMS for medical assistance. Officer Howard was clear and concise on the radio in delivering instructions to incoming officers to assist the situation at hand and to quickly recover evidence related to the crime. Officer Husen was treated at the hospital and was released the night of the incident. Detective McKenna presented the case to the District Attorney's Office and the driver was charged with Aggravated Battery-LEO, Criminal Possession of a Firearm, Criminal Destruction of Property, Felony Obstruct, and Fail to Maintain a Single Lane.

For their efforts in reference to this case, Officer Howard received a Bronze Wreath of Merit and Officer Husen received a Police Shield.